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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 15 and 21 September 1999 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 15-21 September 1999

1. In the northern region 16 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Ninawa, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho and Baibo.

2. In the southern region 162 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Ukhaydir, Hashimiyah, Hillah, Nukhayb, Khidr, Suq al-Shuyukh, Nu'maniyah, Kut, Karbala', Aziziyah, Lasaf, Aslijah, Malutiyat, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Nukhayb East, Afak, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab and Umm Qasr.

3. At 0635 hours on 16 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 10 missions from Saudi airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Salman and Aslijah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0835 hours, drove them off.

4. At 0720 hours on 17 September 1999 United States and British F-15 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 12 missions from Saudi airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Salman, Ushbayjah and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0903 hours, drove them off.

5. At 0640 hours on 18 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 20 missions from Saudi airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Salman, Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Malutiyat, Najaf, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Nukhayb East and Afak areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0950 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0700 hours on 19 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, carried out 28 missions and overflew the Ushbayjah, Salman, Lasaf, Shinafiyah, Ukhaydir, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Hashimiyah, Hillah, Mahawil, Rumaythah and Nukhayb areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1035 hours, drove them off.

7. At 0730 hours on 20 September 1999 United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 26 missions, were supported

by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Salman, Diwaniyah, Khidr, Afak, Malutiyat, Lasaf and Rumaythah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1030 hours, drove them off.

8. At 0830 hours on 21 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 66 missions, 10 from Kuwaiti territory and 56 from Saudi territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Jalibah, Artawi, Salman, Suq al-Shuyukh, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Shinafiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Amarah, Khidr, Rumaythah, Nu'maniyah, Afak, Kut, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Karbala', Taqtaqanah, Lasaf, Maymunah, Aziziyah and Nukhayb areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1142 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1203 hours on 21 September 1999 United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft. They carried out 16 missions and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil, Amadiyah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1410 hours, drove them off.

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